

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0584

PLEASE PASS TO NSC/ HUBERMAN, DOD/OSD-SLOCOMB, AND
NASA/N. TERRELL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TSPA, UN
SUBJECT: BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH CONFERENCE USSR
ON COSMOS 954 FOLLOW-ON

1. DURING COURSE OF SUBCOMMITTEE PLENARY FEB 17
AMB YURY E. FOKINE SOVIET DCM IN NEW YORK, VISITED US
REP AT DESK IN CONFERENCE ROOM, PRESENTED CARD AND STATED
QUOTE DELEGATIONS COME AND DELEGATIONS GO BUT I STAY HEERE
AND I HAVE PERMANENT OVERVIEW OF SPACE MATTERS HERE. I
HOPE, IF YOU HAVE ANY MESSAGES OR POINTS THAT YOU CAN INFORM
ME UNQUOTE.

2. DOYLE REPLIED THAT WE HAVE HAD INFORMALLY SEVERAL
BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AND EXCHANGES
OF VIEWS WITH THE SOVIET DELEGATION. FOR US PART, WE BELIEVE THAT
CLEAR GLOBAL CONCERN ABOUT USES OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES
IN SPACE MUST BE SATISFIED. WE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR A CONFLICT
OR CONFRONTATION WITH USSR ON THIS SUBHECT. WE THINK AN
ELABORATION OF FACTS ON THE SUBJECT, TO EXPLAIN TO MANY
UNIFORMED GOVERNMENTS WHAT IS GOING ON, WILL
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DEFUSE MUCH OF THE MOTIONALISM. WE HOPE THE SOVS WILL
CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIVELY TO THAT EFFORT. WE
DO NOT BELIEVE THIS TOPIC CAN BE SWEEPED UNDER A RUG AND
IGNORED. WE THINK A CLEAR FACTUAL DESCRIPTION OF
PRACTICES WITHOUT GOING INTO GREAT DETAIL WILL HELP. WE
THEN THINK THAT APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS CAN
BE FORMULATED TO MAKE USE OF NUCLEAR SATELLITES POSSIBLE

ON A SOUND AND SAFE BASIS. WE DO NOT THINK THOSE REGULATIONS SHOULD BE DICTATED; THEY CAN BE NEGOTIATED. BUT WE BELIEVE WE MUST MOVE IN THAT DIRECTION AND IT IS NOT UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME, MAYBE THREE TO FIVE YEARS TO GET TO A FULLY AGREED AND IMPLEMENTED REGIME. MEANTIME WE HOPE THE USSR WILL PARTICIPATE AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT WHAT IS HAPPENING AND CONTRIBUTE TO A DEVELOPMENT OF A REALISTIC, WELL-CONSIDERED SET OF REGULATIONS. DOYLE CONCLUDED BY URGING THAT SOVIETS SHOW FLEXIBILITY, AGREE TO STUDY FACTS, AND NOT CREATE AN UNNECESSARY CONFLICT HERE ON THIS ISSUE.

3. FOKINE SAID THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY OFTEN TRIED TO FIND WAYS TO AVOID CONFLICTS AND THAT SOVS DID NOT WANT TO HAVE ONE HERE. HE SAID HE WOULD MEET WITH HIS DELEGATIONS TO DISCUSS THESE VIEWS AND WE COULD DISCUSS THEM FURTHER LATER.
LEONARD

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